



## **Behaviour Management**

### **Introduction:**

BCoT Nursery believe that for children to grow and prosper both socially and intellectually they need the support of a warm, friendly, environment where adults make them feel secure, appreciated and respected, and where they can try out various ways of acting and interacting without fear of humiliation, blame or neglect. We work within the Children Act 1989/2004 guidelines stating that children should be respected and that corporal punishment (slapping, smacking, or shaking etc) is not be acceptable practice in nursery. It may be necessary to use physical restraint to prevent a child injuring themselves, another child or causing serious damage to property.

BCoT nursery believe that everyone has a right to feel valued, respected and safe. This policy provides guidelines on how we support this, it recognises that learning self-regulation and socially appropriate behaviour is a developmental process and that, through modelling positive behaviour at all times and managing challenging behaviour appropriately and competently, we can provide for the needs of the individual child as well as ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone in the nursery.

### **Procedures:**

- A shared approach to dealing with unwanted behaviour is essential, therefore, parents/carers are involved at the outset and in all areas.
- Staff will praise each child's efforts and positive behaviour.
- Staff will share these efforts and achievements with parents and carers.
- Staff will ensure children have good role models to observe.
- The children will be encouraged to respect and care for others.
- Staff will focus on the positive behaviour and not on the negative.
- Children are encouraged to talk through their feelings and to share these with others as appropriate.
- Staff are consistent in their approach to behavioural issues.
- Staff are aware of the nursery's rules and boundaries.
- Parents are valued as their child's primary carer and are kept informed of any events or issues concerning their child's behaviour.
- Parents are supported in encouraging and developing good behaviour in their child
- Any concerns regarding behaviour are brought to the attention of the Manager and SENDCo who, after discussions with the Key Person and parents/carers will draw up a plan of action.

### **When dealing with unwanted behaviour the staff will:**

- Approach the child calmly.
- Acknowledge their feelings.
- Gather information from all relevant sources.
- Restate what has happened to those involved.
- Ask for solutions and choose one together with the child.
- Be prepared to give follow up support to the child if and when needed.

### **The nursery prevent conflict occurring by:**

- Providing enough space and a variety of materials for the children to access.
- Establishing a consistent balanced routine.
- Supporting children's choices and interests.
- Planning for transitions.
- Keeping waiting periods short and active.
- Accepting behavioural differences.
- Respecting children's ideas, concern and feelings.
- Setting reasonable limits and expectations.
- Stopping destructive and aggressive behaviour.
- Using observations in daily planning.

### **Biting**

#### **Some children bite due to:**

**Teething** – swelling gums can be painful and cause discomfort which can be relieved by biting or chewing on something

**Exploration** – babies and young children explore the world around them using their senses, specifically by mouthing - very young children do not necessarily understand the difference between chewing on a toy and biting a friend.

**Attention** – when children are in situations where they feel they are not receiving enough attention they may bite to gain adult attention. This is quite rare, however, it can happen.



**Frustration** – children can be frustrated by any number of things, for example: striving to become more independent and do things for themselves but not having the vocabulary to express themselves clearly. They may bite as a way of expressing their emotions

**What we will do if your child bites:**

The person appointed to support children in their behaviour (SENDCo) will work with you, your child and the staff team to discover why your child is biting. This may be an isolated incident or a one-off reaction to something. We may use a Behaviour Monitoring Form (ABCC), to look at what happened just before the incident. If the form identifies a possible trigger for the biting incident we will make changes to reduce or remove the cause. For example – we may acquire duplicates of favourite toys to stop disputes. We may increase the supervision and support of a child who is biting so that we can support them to find different ways of expressing themselves safely. We may encourage your child to take part in activities which help release frustration such as play dough or other physical activities. We appreciate that if your child has been bitten or has bitten someone this can be distressing, please speak to staff about any concerns you may have in a calm manner. Please remember that staff cannot give you any information about another children in the nursery, and will not disclose who has bitten your child or who your child has bitten.

**What we will do if your child has been bitten:**

Your child will be comforted and reassured and the bite wound will be washed with warm water and a gauze pad. If the wound is bleeding, it will be allowed to bleed and not covered to reduce the risk of further infection. If the bite has broken or bruised the skin, you will be contacted by telephone so that you are aware that your child has been bitten.

If the bite has broken the child's skin, under the Public Health England guidelines you will need to seek medical attention. This could be through your GP or an Accident and Emergency hospital department. When you collect your child there will be an accident form completed with all the information about the biting incident and any treatment given.

All Nursery Staff will take responsibility for ensuring that their own vaccinations are up to date.